VOL. 1, NO. 2

Little Rock, Arkansas

June 9, 1965

STUDIOS VEICE DE LA COMPANSIONE

To Integrate
LIFTLE ROCK, ARK. The city's two swimains pools will be opened on an integrated basis this summer, according to an announcement here on June 2 by City Ancil M. Manager, Douthit.

The pools will be opened "as soon as we are physically able " said Mr. Douthit at the City Directors meeting,

Both Gillam Park Pool and the "white" War Memorial Pool been closed since an attempt to War Meintegrate Pool morial last June.

"We wish to express our continuing interest in the decision to reopen the city's public pools We sorry it took are considerable public pressure to obtain this decision from the Board, and that it too the Board so luctantly," said Jimes Jones, State Project Director for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Con-Emittee (SNCC).

A drive to obtain community support for the opening of the pools was initiated earlier by the Arkansas Council Human Relations.

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THE STAR CITY MEETING ended with everyone joining hends and singing "We Overcome."

FEANCLIFF, ARK. - At the People's Conference here on May 22 and 23, a bas driver from Lincoln County told of the harassment he faced after enrolling daughter in a previously all-white _shool.

September will be th first time in many years that the ex-bus driver will not find himself behind the wheel of a school bus. The resident of Lincoln County said, "The superintendent told me that there were no more contracts and that maybe there had peen a mistake made." But, later, according to the gentlemen, another bus driver was given his old contract.

"This is how the "freedom of choice" system of school desegregation works in the Arkansas Delta," commented one high school student who heard the story.

STAR CITY, June 4 people from Fifty Star City and vicinity conducted a mass meeting tonight to exchange opinions and emperiences concerning the "freedom of choice" plan of desegregation of this public area's schools.

The Lincoln Count Civics Club called the meeting, but many who were not club members attended and spoke. Reverend Ben Grinage of SNCC moderated the gathering at the New Macedonia Church.

"There really isn't a choice between the white Negro and school," reported several students who were present. Negro school in question is not accredited, while the white school is." parents reported that their children had been discouraged from registering to attend the white schools.

Nearly everyone at the meeting expressed the feeling that they had not been informed the school about board's desegregation plans. Many questions could not be answered because of lack of information.

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community centers

"The purpose of a community center or a freedom center," said Miss Nancy Stoller, "is to provide a place where people can gather for recreational activities, meetings and discussions." Miss Stoller is acting as coordinator for the 50 summer volunteers SNCC is sponsoring to aid in the freedom centers.

EVERYONE IS INVITED

These centers will be open to people of all ages, children and adults. Miss Stoller stressed that the people who attend the centers will plan the programs through out the year. "Everyone who lives in traveling distance of a center is welcome to visit," she said, "and to join in the activities."

VOLUNTEERS AID IN PROGRAMS

SNCC is sponsoring several volunteers for each center. These volunteers have a variety of skills to help in starting programs and in providing supplies. "Their main purpose." said Miss Stoller. "is to assist communities in getting what they want."

All the community centers will include libraries. Other activities requested in some towns are tutoring in school subjects for students who desire help, and arts and crafts.

Communities or organizations who would like to have a freedom center in their area are urged to contact their local freedom worker or write Miss Nancy Stoller at the SNCC office, 700 West 9th Street. Little Rock.



"The Hall" in Gould is being repaired for use as a community center.

THE CONJUNITY PLANS THE PROGRAMS GOULD

Mrs. Carie Dilworth has donated a buildin in Gould to be used as a community center. The two-story wooden frame building is in the process of being repaired by SNCC volunteers and Gould residents. This center will probably also serve as a place for several summer volunteers to live.

PINE BLUFF

Members of the Pine Bluff Movement and SNCC are trying to open a freedom center in Pine Bluff. Volunteers in this area will probably need housing in the community.

FORREST CITY

The Forrest City Youth Club is sponsoring a freedom center in Forrest City. The Youth Club, organized by Mrs. Kathryn Clay, holds its meetings in Clay's Chapel.

An old fire-damaged Funeral Home was donated for use as the freedom center. Volunteers are repairing the roof and walls and painting parts of the interior. This freedom center will probably house several volunteers.

WEST HELENA

The West Side Voters League in West Helena is sponsoring a freedom center to be operated in the Greater First Baptist Church in West Helena. They are also negotiating for a large tract of land with a swimming pool nearby.

SOUTHLAND

The Southland Voters League is sponsoring a second Phillips County freedom center. This center will probably be operated in the Springdale Baptist Church in Southland.

Both Phillips County centers will sponsor sessions in Negro history, literacy, and other subjects along with extensive recreational programs. Star City Neeting

men volunteered to go school to the school board wave to try to get some answers. The committee of four said they would welcome any others who wished to there was no room at join them.

about plaints school board's hand- falling apart. ling of the desegregation plan. The committee to seek inforthe form of a letter mation remarked, "We Education griebe sent to the school 10.1." board.

Specific complaint: were voiced by a num- is published by the ber of people. Stu- Arkansas Project of they had been told by lent continued their high school Committee.

principal that they Continued from Page 1 Would be hung at the out that if they Two men and two wo- stayed at the Negro mave parties and socials. they would

They were told, the students said, that the white school school, The Negro Everyone decided to they said was not record their com- only seriously overthe crowded but was also

to the U.S. Office of all have to put our listing schoulders to the wheel. The time for vances. A copy will the wheel to turn is

The ARKANSAS VOICE dents complained that the Student Nonvio-Coordinating

RINCE PAGES



First of Negro youths enjoy Oakland pool.

Summer Plans Announced

LITTLE ROCK, ARK. -Summer plans for Arkansas were announced here by the SNCC office. These will in-clude a voter registration drive, com-munity centers, publicizing discrimination and segregation. and political organizing.

According to JAm Jones, SNCC State Project Director, about 50 Negro and white volunteers will be added to the summer staff.

The volunteers will aid projects operating out of Jefferson, Lincoln, Phillips, and Desha Counties.

PINE BLUFF, ARK. -Eight local Negro youths swam in the Oakland Park Public Pool for the first time here on May 31.

The city of Pine Bluff recently announced the opening of the city pools on an integrated basis. This was the first time Negroes have been allowed to swim in the "white" Oakland Park Pool.

eight high-The school aged Negroes reported no incidents more serious than inand sults water splashing from the approximately fifty whites who were present. A small group of white onlookers gathered but none of the whites in the pool was seen to leave.

Pine The Police Department was on hand to control any problems which might have developed.

Previously, senarate facilities were maintained for whites and Negroes. Both city swimming pools were closed last year when an attempt was made to integrate Oakland Pool.

STATISTICS AVAILABLE

"The General Cond1tion of the Arkansas Negro, a statistical survey, is available from your local SNCC office.

You Can Write For This Paper

Our Arkansas readers are invited to write letters, stories or poems about their own experiences. We are not worried about proper English grammar but we do want the people of Arkansas to write about what they feel is important. We want this paper to be the voice of the people of Arkansas.

One Phillips County housewife has alin her town.

Submit your articles to your local freedom worker or to:

> Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee 700 West 9th Street Little Rock, Arkansas

Out-of-state readers who would like to see this kind of work continue and expand can help by sending contributions of any amount to the above address.

ARKANSAS

Now, Easier Registration

LITTLE ROCK, ARK. -Voter registration will begin soon in 27 countie according to Arkensas State Auditor, Jimmie Jones.

These 27 counties have priority in receiving the registration forms because they have special elections scheduled in the near future.

At this time there are no registered voters in the state of Arkansas. Under a new Arkansas law all persons who want to vote must register with the County Clerk at the County Court Mouse.

Payment of a poll tax is no longer required for registration. The only requirements are: be at least 21 years old and live in Arkansas for one year, in the county for six months and in the precinct or ward for 0126

The 27 counties are as follows: benter,

Benton, come, Csoroll, Clerr, Clay,
Cleburne, Crawford,
Crittenden, Franklin,
Garland, Grant,
Greens, Jefferson,
Lafayett, Lawrence,
Lee, to one, arrion,
Listication, Foinsett, fore, caline,
Sebaction, Sevier,
Van Luren, and Jhite.

Profiled ISDIE INC.

ACCOUNTAGE INC.

ACC Van Luren, and Shite.

gistration will begin grant from the U.S. about June 22, Mr. Jones enjourced.

L.A. Fools Continued from Page I opening the

Local students and many in the in all parts of the ceived a chance city. During a two learn swimming day period they ob- water safety. tained about 1,300 signatures on pecards.

nity. Two Negro recreational facili- whatever legal and youths drowned re- ties, where they ex- other resources are cently in Fourche ist, in predominately necessary to end Creek, an ominous be- Negro sections of racial segregation in ginning for a hot this city." summer without supervised swimming. Thile the City Directors deliberated on the

The hospital has Pulaski County re-received a financial

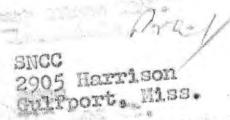
CHICAGO CARACTER CONTRACTOR CONTR 'big loss," financially, that Little Rock would incur by pools, Negro SNCC workers canvass- community mourned the ed shopping centers death of these youngand residential areas sters who never re-

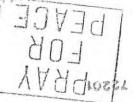
Jones also urged titions and post- the Board "to correct the damage done to the community by the An extremely strong 'separate but equal' response in favor of concept. Racial seg-

The petition stated

- -Megro doctors cannot practice there.
- -Negro patients are treated only on the first floor, regardless of crowded conditions.
- -Negro nurses are not allowed to work on the all-white floors,
- -Eating facilities are segregated.
- -There are only a few Negro murses on the staff.

Citizens of Phil-An extremely strong 'separate but equal' Citizens of Phil-response in favor of concept. Racial seg-blips County who sign-the petitions came regation has produced ed this petition said from the Negro commu- gross deficiencies in they plan to use





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